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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/044,484	01/11/2002	Larry C. Frame	020375-007400US	9883

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EXAMINER

LE, DEBBIE M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2177

DATE MAILED: 04/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/044,484

Applicant(s)

FRAME ET AL

Examiner

DEBBIE M LE

Art Unit

2177

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Information Disclosure Statement*

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 4/25/02 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and has been considered by the examiner.

### *Drawings*

The drawings are objected to because they fail to show necessary textual labels of features or symbols in Figs. 4-7 as described in the specification. For example, placing a label, "Activity file", with element 400 of Fig. 4, or "Activity field", with element 402, or "Last name", with element 404, would give the viewer necessary detail to fully understand this element at a glance. A *descriptive* textual label for *each numbered element* in these figures would be needed to fully and better understand these figures without substantial analysis of the detailed specification. Any structural detail that is of sufficient importance to be described should be shown in the drawing. Optionally, applicant may wish to include a table next to the present figure to fulfill this requirement. See 37 CFR 1.83. 37 CFR 1.84(n)(o) is recited below:

"(n) Symbols. Graphical drawing symbols may be used for conventional elements when appropriate. The elements for which such symbols and labeled representations are used must be adequately identified in the specification. Known devices should be illustrated by symbols which have a universally recognized conventional meaning and are generally accepted in the art. Other symbols which are not universally recognized may be used, subject to approval by the Office, if they are not likely to be confused with existing conventional symbols, and if they are readily identifiable.

(o) Legends. Suitable descriptive legends may be used, or may be required by the Examiner, where necessary for understanding of the drawing, subject to approval by the Office. They should contain as few words as possible."

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Aiken (USP 6,658,626 B1).

As per claim 1, Aiken discloses a method for displaying results (outputs) of a comparison between two or more document comprising:

comparing data contained in a key segment (segments, e.g. paragraphs in a written report, method in a computer program, etc., col. 16, line 64-65) of each record of a first file (fig. 6, DOCUMENT A) to data in a related key segment of each record of a second file (fig. 6, DOCUMENT B);

upon each occurrence of a match (data related to any matches found) of data in the key segment of a record in the first file to data in the related key segment of a record in the second file (the results of comparing two or more documents for similar or matching passages, col. 2, lines 37-38), creating a record in a temporary electronic file, wherein the record in the temporary file includes data from the records of both the first

and second files having matching key segment data (pairs are stored in a temporary file, col. 7, lines 6-26);

selecting data from records of the temporary file and outputting the selected data (fig. 6, col. 16, lines 49-67, col. 17, lines 1-67).

As per claim 2, Aiken teaches thereafter deleting the temporary file (reset the counter to zero, col. 7, lines 60-67, col. 8, lines 16-21).

As per claim 3, Aiken teaches for additional files (determined if there are any other documents, the next document is selected), repeating (the process is repeated) steps a), b) and c) using an additional file as the first file and the temporary file as the second file (col. 8, lines 24, lines 35-38).

As per claims 4-6, Aiken teaches wherein the first file is stored in electronic form on magnetic tape, media selected from a group consisting of solid state memory, magnetic disk memory, and optical memory (fig. 8, col. 20, lines 50-67).

As per claim 7, Aiken teaches sorting the records of the first file based on data contained in the key segment (list of pairs is sorted, col. 11, lines 47-67).

As per claim 8, Aiken teaches wherein a record of the temporary file created upon a match of data between records in the first and second files contains less than (now shorter) all of the data from the matching records of the first and second files (col. 14, lines 10-28, col. 15, lines 3-11).

As per claims 8-9, Aiken teaches selecting data from the records of the temporary file based in part on logic operators, wherein the logic operators are selected from a group consisting of less than, greater than, equal to, not-equal-to, less-than-or-

equal-to, greater-than-or-equal-to, in and not in (equal to or less than or greater than, col. 7, lines 45-48, col. 13, line 57).

Claims 10, 18, and 24 are rejected by the same rationale as state in independent claim 1 arguments.

Claims 11-17, 19-23 have similar limitations as state in dependent claims 2-9; therefore, they are rejected under the same subject matter.

### ***Conclusion***

If a reference indicated as being mailed on PTO-FORM 892 has not been enclosed in this action, please contact Lisa Craney whose phone number is (703) 305-9601 for faster service.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DEBBIE M LE whose telephone number is 703-308-6409. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN BREENE can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DEBBIE M LE  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2177

Debbie Le

April 26, 2004.



GRETA ROBINSON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER